

R E M A R K S

Careful review and examination of the subject application are noted and appreciated. Applicants' representative thanks Examiner Cho for the indication of allowable subject matter.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

The rejection of claims 1-11, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as being a single means claim is respectfully traversed and should be withdrawn.

Specifically, a "single means claim" is "a claim drafted in 'means-plus-function' format yet reciting only a single element instead of a combination" (see *In re Hyatt*, 708 F.2d 712, 713, 218 USPQ 195, 196 (Fed. Cir. 1983) cited in MPEP §2164.08(a)). Claim 1 is not written in "means-plus-function" format. Therefore, the designation of claim 1 as being a "single means claim" does not appear to be proper and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 19, which depended directly from claim 1. The Office Action stated claim 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form (see sections 6 and 7 on page 4 of the Office Action). As such, claim 1 is believed now to be in condition for allowance and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-11 and 20 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 1 which is believed to be allowable. As such, the

presently claimed invention is fully patentable under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and the rejection should be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

The rejection of claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Harriman et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,898,687; hereinafter Harriman) has been obviated by appropriate amendment and should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 19. Claim 13 has been amended to include subject matter similar to the allowable subject matter of claim 19. As such, claims 1 and 13 are believed to be fully patentable over the cited reference (see sections 6 and 7 on page 4 of the Office Action) and the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-11, 14-18 and 20 depend, directly or indirectly, from either claim 1 or claim 13 which are believed to be allowable. As such, the presently claimed invention is fully patentable over the cited reference and the rejection should be withdrawn.

New claim 21 includes all the limitations of the previously presented claim 1 and all the limitations of claim 20, which depended directly from claim 1, and which the Office Action stated was allowable (see sections 6 and 7 on page 4 of the Office Action). As such, claim 21 is fully patentable over the cited references.

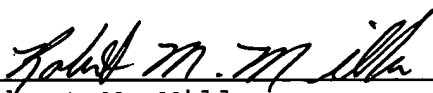
Accordingly, the present application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative should it be deemed beneficial to further advance prosecution of the application.

If any additional fees are due, please charge our office Account No. 50-0541.

Respectfully submitted,

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